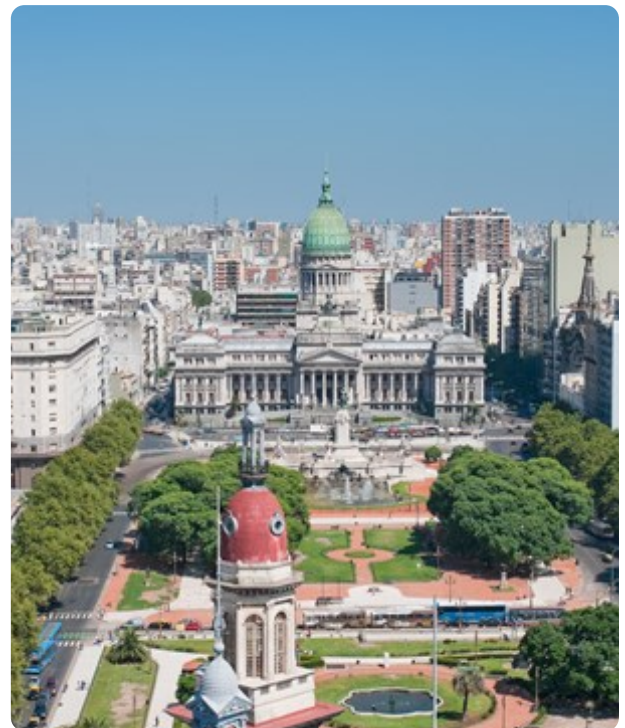




## BUENOS AIRES

The Argentine capital is a city like no other. It has a hint of a European feel, but with a distinct Latin American flavour. It is cosmopolitan, yet autochthonous. Every street corner and narrow alleyway is teeming with art and culture, history and personality, tango, rock n' roll and football. It is a city of museums, of galleries, of classical-style cafes and world-class steakhouses, of antique markets and bookstores, a city for screams of joy at the Bombonera Stadium and midnight strolls along the majestic River Plate. Buenos Aires is a true world city in every sense of the world, and none who visit can resist its charms.



## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Like most great cities, Buenos Aires is best experienced at night. Not only is it a city that never sleeps, it is a place where the fun is just getting started after midnight. There is music everywhere, theatres have late-night showings, restaurants and bars start to get crowded for dinner at about midnight, and 'boliches' (nightclubs) don't even open until about 2am, and the partying continues until well past 7am. The city's unique nightlife is sure to have visitors sleep deprived, but always wanting more.

### PARTY AT PACHA

One of the city's best and most famous nightclubs is Pacha, located in the Parque Costanera Norte facing the River Plate. The huge dance floor, numerous bars, frantic lights and open-air terrace remind one of the best parties in Ibiza, world-famous DJs and all.

Avenida Costanera R. Obligado, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4788 4288  
Fri-Sat

### TANGO AT CAFE TORTONI

The historic Café Tortoni opened its doors for the first time in 1858, and it is one of the best places in the city to experience traditional tango. Once a favourite haunt of artists, writers and musicians, it really brings to life the bohemian side of Buenos Aires, and it keeps the tradition alive with riveting and intimate tango performances.

Av. de Mayo 825, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4342 4328  
[www.cafetortoni.com.ar](http://www.cafetortoni.com.ar)  
Mon-Sat 8am-1am, Sun 9am-1am

### CULTURE AT CENTRO CULTURAL BORGES

This cultural centre, named after one of the country's best and most beloved authors, Jorge Luis Borges, hosts an astonishing variety of performances and exhibitions. From ballet and tango to experimental theatre and orchestras, indie films, photography and art expos, you are sure to find something interesting during your visit.

Viamonte, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 5555 5359  
[www.ccborges.org.ar](http://www.ccborges.org.ar)  
Mon-Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 12pm-9pm

### WINE TASTING AT PALACIO DUHAU

Inside the gorgeous Palacio Duhaú Hotel, the Vinoteca hosts exclusive nightly wine tasting events that showcase some of the country's best vintages. Take a tour of the Argentina's different regions through its wines, expertly paired with artisanal cheeses for an unforgettable experience.

Avenida Alvear 1661, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 5171 1234  
[buenosaires.park.hyatt.com/es/hotel/home.html](http://buenosaires.park.hyatt.com/es/hotel/home.html)  
Sun-Wed 8pm-12am, Thu-Sat 8pm-1am

### THEATRO ON AVENIDA CORRIENTES

Buenos Aires can boast being an important centre for many things, among them, theatre. Avenida Corrientes, besides being famed as the birthplace of tango, is home to a huge array of world-renowned theatres that offer top-notch performances and concerts year-round. There are few better places to experience the city's cultural vibrancy.

Avenida Corrientes, Buenos Aires  
[www.balirica.org.ar](http://www.balirica.org.ar)

## CAFES



Porteños take their coffee seriously. They usually like it black, strong and with lots of sugar. They also like to take their time with it, lingering for hours at one of the city's many historic cafes. The romantic images of bohemians, artists and writers working away on their next masterpiece in the secluded corner of a crowded cafe come to life in Buenos Aires. Take your time to discover some of them and spend the afternoon people watching and taking in the incomparable vibe of a porteño cafe. And don't forget to accompany your coffee with a 'medialuna'.

### CONFITERÍA LAS VIOLETAS

Another Buenos Aires institution, Las Violetas has been in operation for about 130 years, and it still retains that classical feel about it, from the decor to the place settings, to the immaculately presented wait staff. Everything about Las Violetas just screams with class, and the excellent coffee and pastries make it impossible to resist.

Av Rivadavia 3899, Buenos Aires  
 +54 11 4958 7387  
[www.lasvioletas.com](http://www.lasvioletas.com)  
 Daily 6am-1am

### EL ATENEO GRAND SPLENDID

Buenos Aires is one of the world's great literary cities, and there is no better place to browse shelf after shelf in search of a hidden gem than El Ateneo Grand Splendid. Housed in a former grand theatre, the setting alone is worth a visit, and book-lovers will want to spend entire days admiring the volumes that extend wall-to-wall. Not only is it a great place to shop for books, but the local cafe (located on what used to be the stage of the theatre) invites shoppers to linger a bit longer and enjoy their new purchases over a cup of hot coffee.

Av. Santa Fe 1860, Buenos Aires  
 +54 11 4813 6052  
 Mon-Thu 9am-10pm, Fri-Sat 9am-12am, Sun  
 12pm-10pm

### CAFÉ LA BIELA

Recently declared a Place of Cultural Interest by the city, this is yet another historically important cafe, known among other things for being the old hangout of some legendary Argentinian icons, such as writers Jorge Luis Borges and Adolfo Bioy Casares, whose photographs can be seen hanging behind the bar.

Av Pres. Manuel Quintana 596, Buenos Aires  
 +54 11 4804-0449  
[www.labiela.com](http://www.labiela.com)

### CAFÉ TORTONI

The historic Café Tortoni opened its doors for the first time in 1858, and it is one of the best places in the city to experience traditional tango. Once a favourite haunt of artists, writers and musicians, it really brings to life the bohemian side of Buenos Aires, and it keeps the tradition alive with riveting and intimate tango performances.

Av. de Mayo 825, Buenos Aires  
 +54 11 4342 4328  
[www.cafetortoni.com.ar](http://www.cafetortoni.com.ar)  
 Mon-Sat 8am-1am, Sun 9am-1am



## DINING



The first thing that pops into people's minds when they think of food in Argentina is without a doubt steak. The whole country is famous for its juicy and flavourful steaks from grass-fed Pampas cattle. 'Parrilla' (meaning both steakhouses and the grill itself) is key to the country's cuisine and culture, but be sure to explore other culinary trends during your visit. The popular 'bodegones', or neighbourhood eateries, serve meats, pasta, chicken Milanese and other comfort foods, and a large number of new restaurants are opening regularly, bringing a larger variety of international specialties to the dining scene in Buenos Aires. And then there's always everyone's favourite street food: the 'choripan'.

### ARAMBURU RESTÓ

Another restaurant listed among Latin America's top 50, Aramburu Restó showcases the culinary talents of Gonzalo Aramburu in an unassuming location that you might miss entirely if you're not looking for it. The extensive sampling menu consists of up to 19 small courses, each one a work of art, naturally paired with the perfect accompanying wine.

Salta 1050, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4305 0439  
[www.arambururesto.com.ar](http://www.arambururesto.com.ar)  
Tue-Sat 8:30pm-11pm

### OSAKA

With locations all over Latin America, including Lima, Sao Paulo and Santiago de Chile, it is safe to say that this Japanese chain restaurant has become a South American empire.

Soler 5608, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4775 6964  
[www.osaka.com.pe](http://www.osaka.com.pe)  
Daily 12pm-4pm and 8:30pm-1am

### STEAKS BY LUIS

Perhaps one of the best steak experiences you are likely to find anywhere, Steaks by Luis offers private asados for small groups on four nights per week. The 5 course dinner includes a cheese and cold-cut platter, salad, grilled starters, prime steak and desert, and each course comes paired with a specialty Argentine vintage. Prepare for one of the best meals of your life.

Malabia 1308, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4776 0780  
[www.steakbuenosaires.net](http://www.steakbuenosaires.net)  
Mon, Tue, Thu, Sat 8:45pm-12:30am

### I LATINA

Named one of Latin America's top 50 restaurants, this Villa Crespo restaurant, run by three Colombian siblings, strives to bring the very best of Caribbean flavours to Buenos Aires. Their seven-course meals provide a sweep of different Latin American tastes and ingredients, all expertly paired with local wines.

Murillo 725, Villa Crespo, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4857 9095  
[www.ilatinabuenosaires.com](http://www.ilatinabuenosaires.com)  
Tue-Sat 8pm-1am

### UNA CANCIÓN COREANA

A great example of how international cuisine is slowly being introduced to the city, Una Canción Coreana is a family-run establishment that offers delicious and authentic Korean specialty dishes, such as bulgogi, beef kimchi soup, and of course, Korean barbecue.

Avenida Carabobo 1549, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4631 8852  
Tue-Sun 12pm-10:30pm

## DO & SEE



It's difficult to fit everything there is to do in Buenos Aires into any itinerary, no matter how hard you try. Art-lovers will have plenty to enjoy at the world-class museums and theatres, shopaholics will splurge at the numerous markets selling everything from antiques to leather, fans of architecture can admire the art nouveau, art deco and neoclassical style buildings that dominate the different neighbourhoods, foodies will delight at the top-notch steakhouses and fusion restaurants, and the list goes on. It is above all, however, a city that begs to be walked, and wise travelers will take their time exploring broad avenues and narrow alleyways alike, taking in all they have to offer.

### SAN TELMO

A more traditional, if a bit bohemian, part of town, San Telmo's cobblestone streets and colonial style houses are all about antique-hunting, people-watching and tango. The streets are lined with top-notch steakhouses and quaint shops where you can get lost for hours. Be sure to check out the Sunday market for great deals on some unique antiques.

San Telmo, Buenos Aires

### CEMENTERIO DE LA RECOLETA

Everyone who is anyone in Argentina's history is likely to be found buried in Cementerio de la Recoleta. The seemingly endless rows of tombs and small mausoleums are the final resting places of former presidents, generals and historic figures, including the much beloved Eva Perón.

Junín & Guido, Buenos Aires  
 +54 800 444 2363  
 Daily 7am-5:30pm

### CASA ROSADA

Centrally located on the Plaza de Mayo, the Casa Rosada ('pink house') contains federal offices and was once the president's residence. The famous balcony where Eva Perón would speak is visible on the facade, but the interior can also be explored during free half-hour tours on weekends.

Plaza de Mayo, Buenos Aires  
 +54 4344 3600  
 Sat-Sun 10am-6pm

### PUERTO MADERO

Once an important port and centre for European trade, Puerto Madero has been completely redeveloped into a busy daytime business district and a trendy nightspot full of classy restaurants, cool bars and tons of hip porteños strolling along the water enjoying the night air.

Puerto Madero, Buenos Aires

### MUSEO NACIONAL DE BELLAS ARTES

Argentina's best and most important art museum houses impressive collections from some of the most celebrated names in both national and international art, including Cézanne, Solar, Picasso, Van Gogh, Degas and Rembrandt. The museum itself is beautiful and surrounded by the lovely greenery of the museum district.

Av del Libertador 1473, Buenos Aires  
 +54 11 5288 9900  
[www.mnba.gob.ar](http://www.mnba.gob.ar)  
 Tue-Fri 12:30pm-8:30pm, Sat-Sun 9:30am-8:30pm

### PLAZA DE MAYO

Surrounded by the Casa Rosada (the presidential office), the Cabildo (former seat of government during colonial times), the Banco de la Nación and the city's main cathedral, Plaza de Mayo is the very heart of Buenos Aires and civic life and thus where most of the city's rather frequent protests take place.

Plaza de Mayo, Buenos Aires

## LA BOCA

Though it was once a busy shipyard where European immigrants settled after coming in search of work, this colourful and vibrant neighbourhood has developed into a fashionable centre for trendy galleries and boutiques. Tourists flock here to snap a shot of the colourful Caminito, where painted metal shacks reflect the area's past, and to pay a visit to one of football's most legendary stadiums.

La Boca, Buenos Aires

## TEATRO COLÓN

Often considered one of the top opera houses on the planet because of its acoustic quality, architectural magnificence and stunning beauty, Teatro Colón is perhaps the best place in Buenos Aires to enjoy some of the finer performance arts. The constantly changing program includes some of the world's best orchestras, operas and ballets.

Pasaje Toscanini 1180, Buenos Aires

+54 11 4378 7100

[www.teatrocolon.org.ar](http://www.teatrocolon.org.ar)

Daily 9am-5pm

## CENTRO CULTURAL BORGES

This cultural centre, named after one of the country's best and most beloved authors, Jorge Luis Borges, hosts an astonishing variety of performances and exhibitions. From ballet and tango to experimental theatre and orchestras, indie films, photography and art expos, you are sure to find something interesting during your visit.

Viamonte, Buenos Aires

+54 11 5555 5359

[www.ccborges.org.ar](http://www.ccborges.org.ar)

Mon-Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 12pm-9pm

## FERIA DE SAN PEDRO TELMO

Every Sunday at Feria de San Pedro Telmo, in the heart of the San Telmo neighbourhood, a fascinating market takes place that covers the square and surrounding cobblestone streets with antiques and handicrafts, and the whole area bustles with life and music and eager shoppers searching for that rare find.

Feria de San Pedro, Defensa 1098, Buenos Aires

Sun 10am-5pm

## MUSEUM OF LATIN AMERICAN ART OF BUENOS AIRES

The Museum of Latin American Art of Buenos Aires (MALBA) is one of the country's, and perhaps the continent's, premier art museums, boasting astonishing collections and temporary exhibitions. One of the main draws is the enormous 19th and 20th century Latin American exhibit, but be sure to check out the cinema and the wonderful gift shop, as well.

Av. Presidente Figueroa Alcorta 3415, Buenos Aires

+54 11 4808 6500

[www.malba.org.ar](http://www.malba.org.ar)

Thu-Mon 12pm-8pm, Wed 12pm-9pm

## LA BOMBONERA STADIUM

The Bombonera Stadium is home to the Boca Juniors football team, former club of the legendary Diego Armando Maradona, which boasts what is perhaps one of most passionate fan-bases in all of football. You can explore the club's history at the Museo de la Pasión Boquense, and if you're lucky enough, you might even be able to score some tickets to see the action live.

Brandsen 805, Buenos Aires

+54 11 4309 4700

[www.museoboquense.com](http://www.museoboquense.com)

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



### PHARMACY

Big Pharmacy

Paraguay 615, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4312 9883

### TELEPHONE

Country code: +54

Area code: 11

### ELECTRICITY

220-240 V, 50 Hz, AC  
Plug types C, I

### PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Public Transport in Buenos Aires is efficient and affordable and by far the best way to get around. There are two types of buses (regular 'colectivos' and Metrobus), as well as Latin America's oldest subway system, or 'Subte'. All public transport in the city is paid using the rechargeable SUBE card, which can be purchased at post offices and corner shops.

Bus stops are ubiquitous. Be sure to stand in line at the bus stop, as they are strictly respected. Tell the driver where you're going and he'll let you know how much the fare is, as it varies depending on how far you are traveling. Colectivos run 24 hours, though less frequently at night. Metrobuses have dedicated lanes along major roads to speed across the city, and many stations have free WiFi.

The Subte is clean, reliable and both the fastest and cheapest way to get around. Trains run often, every 3-10 minutes, Mon-Fri 5am-10:30pm, Sun 8am-10pm. Several lines run parallel East to West, while line C crosses them going North to South.

### TAXIS

Buenos Aires' black and yellow taxis are ubiquitous and can be flagged down anywhere. Rides are metred, and fares go up 20% at night.

Onda Verde: +54 11 4867 0000  
Premium: +54 11 4374 6666, +54 11 5238 0000  
New Taxi: +54 11 4551 1110

### POST

Correo Argentino  
Uruguay 1069, Buenos Aires  
+54 11 4891 9191  
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm

### EZEIZA AIRPORT

Ministro Pistarini International Airport (EZE), more commonly referred to as simply Ezeiza International Airport, is located about 22 kilometres outside of Buenos Aires. It is the largest airport in Argentina, handling about 85% of the country's international air traffic, and is the hub for Aerolíneas Argentinas and LAN Argentina.

The easiest way to get to the city from the airport is by taking one of the authorised taxis from the stalls just outside the terminals. The ride should take about 30 minutes and cost about ARS 150 (about USD 35).

There are also minibus and shuttle services that are cheaper, but only have services to each company's terminal, so travelers must switch to local transportation for the rest of the journey.

Some public buses run to central areas of the city. Bus 51 goes to Constitución and number 86 goes to Plaza de Mayo.

Autopista Tte Gral. Ricchieri Km 33,5, Ezeiza  
+54 11 5480 6111  
[www.aa2000.com.ar](http://www.aa2000.com.ar)



## SHOPPING



Buenos Aires is known to be one of the shopping capitals of South America, and it certainly lives up to its reputation. From the trendy boutiques and luxury shopping of Recoleta and Palermo to the antiques and handicrafts of San Telmo to the exquisite high-quality leather products of Villa Crespo to the ubiquitous bookstores spread out all over the city, every corner of the city seems to have its own specialty when it comes to shopping, and it can keep even the most avid shopper busy for days.

### EL ATENEO GRAND SPLENDID

Buenos Aires is one of the world's great literary cities, and there is no better place to browse shelf after shelf in search of a hidden gem than El Ateneo Grand Splendid. Housed in a former grand theatre, the setting alone is worth a visit, and book-lovers will want to spend entire days admiring the volumes that extend wall-to-wall.

Av. Santa Fe 1860, Buenos Aires  
 +54 11 4813 6052  
 Mon-Thu 9am-10pm, Fri-Sat 9am-12am, Sun  
 12pm-10pm

### CALLE FLORIDA

The grand Florida Avenue is the city's main pedestrian thoroughfare, running North to South through the city centre. It showcases all manner of shops and boutiques, and the streets are lined with street vendors and performers, money changers, and some of Argentina's famous leather works.

Calle Florida, Buenos Aires

### RECOLETA MALL

Recoleta Mall is one of Buenos Aires' great modern malls, located right in the heart of one of the city's trendiest neighbourhoods. It offers everything one might expect from a contemporary shopping centre, from upscale shops and specialty boutiques to fast food restaurants and a large cinema.

Vicente López 2050, Buenos Aires  
 +54 11 4808 0605  
[www.recoletamall.com.ar](http://www.recoletamall.com.ar)  
 Daily 10am-12am

### FERIA DE SAN PEDRO TELMO

Every Sunday at Feria de San Pedro Telmo, in the heart of the San Telmo neighbourhood, a fascinating market takes place that covers the square and surrounding cobblestone streets with antiques and handicrafts, and the whole area bustles with life and music and eager shoppers searching for that rare find.

Feria de San Pedro, Defensa 1098, Buenos Aires  
 Sun 10am-5pm

### FERIA ARTESANAL PLAZA FRANCIA

Another wonderful street market, this time in the city's trendy Recoleta neighbourhood, the Feria de Artesanos at Plaza Francia showcases some of the city's best craftsmen in wood, metal, leather, textiles and more. It is the perfect place to pick up great gifts to take back home with you.

Plaza Francia, Buenos Aires  
[www.feriaplazafrancia.com](http://www.feriaplazafrancia.com)  
 Sat-Sun 11am-8pm